AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1.   (Currently Amended) A controlled public telephone communications system comprising:

a plurality of telephones at a given site;

a programmable control computer for switching, accessing, routing, timing, billing, and ~~controlling~~ restricting usage of said telephones by particular individuals, said telephones being connected to said computer;

an off site public switched telephone network;

a Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) network; and

switching means for selectively connecting said telephones with said Voice over Internet Protocol network.

2.   (Previously Presented) The system recited in claim 1 wherein programming for said control computer is distributed to remote locations over said VoIP network.

3.   (Original) The system recited in claim 1 wherein said programmable control computer further comprises a VoIP gateway for servicing and control of VoIP communications.

4.   (Previously Presented) The system recited in claim 1 further comprising:

a plurality of given sites;

at least one programmable control computer at each site;

said sites being interconnected over said VoIP network.

5.   (Previously Presented) The system recited in claim 4 further comprising:

a data exchange network interconnecting said sites, said telephone communications system being integrated into said data exchange network.

6.   (Original) The system recited in claim 1 wherein said off site switched telephone network is a Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN).

7.   (Original) The system recited in claim 1 wherein said offsite switched telephone network is a Private Branch Exchange.

8.   (Currently Amended) The system recited in claim 1 wherein said control computer includes: a third party call detect system <u>for imposing a third party call restriction</u>.

9.   (Original) The system recited in claim 1 wherein said control computer includes:

a system responsive to personal identification numbers (PIN) keyed into said telephones for authorizing stored permitted telephone usage associated with individual PIN numbers.

10.   (Original) The system recited in claim 3 wherein said gateway is an internal gateway.

11.   (Original) The system recited in claim 3 wherein said gateway is an external gateway shared with other VoIP devices outside of said control computer.

12.   (Currently Amended) A controlled public telephone communication system comprising[[;]]:

a plurality of telephones at a given site;

a programmable control system for performing the functions of switching, accessing, routing, timing, billing, and ~~controlling~~ <u>restricting</u> use of said telephones <u>by particular individuals</u>;

an off site public switched telephone network;

an Ethernet network interface at said site; <u>and</u>

a Voice over Internet Prototal (VoIP) gateway[[;]]<u>,</u>

said telephones being connected through said Ethernet network interface and said Voice over Internet Protocol gateway to said off site public switched telephone network.

13.   (Previously Presented) The system recited in claim 12 wherein at least some of said functions of said programmable system are performed off of said site, through said Ethernet network interface.

14.   (Previously Presented) The system recited in claim 12 further comprising:

a plurality of given sites;

said sites being interconnected over an Ethernet network.

15.   (Original) The system recited in claim 14 further comprising:

a data exchange network interconnecting said sites over said Ethernet network.

16.   (Previously Presented) The system recited in claim 15 wherein said programmable control system includes a control computer at each site.

17.   (Original) The system recited in claim 12 wherein said off site switched telephone network is a Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN).

18.   (Currently Amended) The system recited in claim 12 wherein said programmable control system performs the function of third party call detection for imposing a third party call restriction.

19.   (Previously Presented) The system recited in claim 18 further comprising:

a VoIP network, wherein said VoIP gateway is a first VoIP gateway and is disposed between said telephones and said VoIP network; and

a second VoIP gateway disposed between said VoIP network and said off site public switched telephone network.

20.   (Original) The system recited in claim 19 wherein said third party call detection is performed between said second VoIP gateway and said public switched telephone network.

21.   (Original) The system recited in claim 16 wherein said control computer includes:

a system responsive to personal identification numbers (PIN) keyed into said telephones for authorizing stored permitted telephone usage associated with individual PIN numbers.

22.   (Original) The system recited in claim 16 wherein said control computer at each site includes a VoIP gateway.

23.   (Original) The system recited in claim 22 wherein said VoIP gateway includes voice compression and packetization.

24.   (Original) The system recited in claim 19 wherein said second VoIP gateway includes decompression and depacketization.

25.   (Previously Presented) The system recited in claim 19 wherein said first VoIP gateway includes an Ethernet network interface.

26.   (Currently Amended) A control computer for a telephone communication system which includes a plurality of telephones at a given site which are connected to an off site public switching network, said control computer comprising:

      programmable means for ~~controlling~~ restricting usage of said telephones by particular individuals; and

      a VoIP gateway for translating signals from said telephones into data packets which can be transmitted over a VoIP network to said public switching network.

27.   (Original) The system recited in claim 26 wherein said VoIP gateway includes voice compression and packetization.

28.   (Original) The system recited in claim 26 wherein a second VoIP gateway includes decompression and depacketization.

29.   (Original) The system recited in claim 26 wherein said VoIP gateway includes an Ethernet network interface.

30.   (Currently Amended) The system recited in claim 28 further comprising:

      a third party call detection system for imposing a third party call restriction; and

      a public switched telephone network, said third party call detection system being disposed between said second VoIP gateway and said public switched telephone network.

31.   (Original) The system recited in claim 1 wherein said control computer includes:

      a system responsive to a calling card number associated with a personal identification number (PIN), said numbers being keyed into said telephones for authorizing stored permitted telephone usage associated with individual numbers.

32.   (Previously Presented) A call processing system for use in processing calls associated with a prison facility, said system comprising:

a plurality of telephone terminals disposed at said prison facility;

a voice over Internet protocol (VoIP) gateway coupled to said plurality of telephone terminals and disposed locally with respect thereto, said VoIP gateway providing a digital data network interface providing digital communication of voice signals associated with one or more of said plurality of telephone terminals with user terminals external to said prison facility; and

a processor-based system coupled to said VoIP gateway and disposed remotely with respect thereto, said processor-based system providing call control for controlling communications between said plurality of telephone terminals and said user terminals external to said prison facility.

33.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 32, wherein said call control provided by said processor-based system comprises a call routing determination.

34.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 32, wherein said call control provided by said processor-based system comprises telephone usage restriction checking.

35.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 32, wherein said call control provided by said processor-based system comprises a PIN verification determination.

36.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 32, wherein said call control provided by said processor-based system comprises a billing determination.

37.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 32, wherein said call control provided by said processor-based system comprises call monitoring.

38.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 32, wherein said call control provided by said processor-based system comprises call fraud detection.

39.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 32, wherein said call fraud detection comprises three-way call detection.

40.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 32, wherein said processor-based system provides real time call recording.

41.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 32, wherein said processor-based system provides centralized call control functions at a central administration location.

42.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 32, wherein said user terminals external to said prison facility communicate via the public switched telephone network.

43.   (Previously Presented) A method for providing prison facility call processing, said method comprising:

coupling, via a digital data link, a centralized system providing call control functions to a prison telephone system having a voice over Internet protocol (VoIP) gateway; and

interfacing a telephone terminal of said prison telephone system coupled to said VoIP gateway with a public switched telephone network under control of said centralized system to thereby complete a call between said telephone terminal and a telephone terminal coupled to said public switched telephone network.

44.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43, further comprising:

monitoring said call to detect three-way calling.

45.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44, wherein said monitoring said call to detect three-way calling is performed remotely with respect to said prison telephone system.

46.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43, wherein said centralized system provides call recording with respect to said call.

47.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43, wherein said centralized system provides billing with respect to said call.

48.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43, wherein said centralized system provides routing with respect to said call.

49.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43, wherein said centralized system provides caller identification checking with respect to said call.

50.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43, wherein said centralized system provides three-way call detection with respect to said call.

51.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43, wherein said centralized system provides fraud detection with respect to said call.

52.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43, wherein said centralized system provides call monitoring with respect to said call.

53.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 32 wherein said call processing system is a prison telephone system.